

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: A8714

RIIHIMAKI, Kyung, et al.

Appln. No.: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: March 3, 2004

For: NEEDLE HAVING VIBRATION-PRODUCING HANDLE AND METHOD OF
ACUPUNCTURE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than any U.S. patents and patent publications, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No.: Filed Herewith

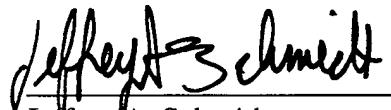
Atty. Docket: A8714

explanations: for JP 2001-299873, DE 35 22 855, and EP 0 082 081, the enclosed English abstracts provide a concise explanation of their relevance.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 3, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u>				Application Number	Unkonwn
				Confirmation Number	Unkonwn
				Filing Date	March 3, 2004
				First Named Inventor	RIIHIMAKI, Kyung
				Art Unit	Unknown
				Examiner Name	Unkonwn
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	A8714

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 5,857,968	A	1/12/1999	Benja-Athon
		US 5,716,372	A	2/10/1998	Yoo
		US 5,540,710	A	7/30/1996	Yoo
		US 4,760,847	A	8/2/1988	Vaillancourt
		US 3,957,053	A	5/18/1976	Woo
		US 3,943,932	A	3/16/1976	Woo
		US 3,861,392	A	1/21/75	Moen
		US			
		US			

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.